

# *A Celebration of Life*



***Betty Joyce Baham***

Sunrise

Sunset

October 29, 1935

September 10, 2018



## *Remembering Our Beloved*

Betty Joyce Baham was born October 29, 1935 in Galveston, Texas and was the beloved only child of Mildred Mae Bacon, a licensed vocational nurse, and Leonard Hawthorne Bacon, a former Negro League baseball player and longshoreman. At the age of nine Betty moved to San Francisco, California with her family.



Betty attended high school at Polytechnic High, earned her Bachelor's degree and Teacher's Credential at San Francisco State University and earned two Master's degrees including School Psychology at the University of San Francisco.

At San Francisco State University she met Nicholas L. Baham, Jr., a classically trained clarinetist and later a certified public accountant and they married in 1960. Betty and Nicholas had two children, Nicholas III and Elizabeth. In 2003 her grandson Nicholas IV was born and Betty subsequently relocated to San Leandro to be closer to him.

Betty had a distinguished 35-year career as a teacher, administrator, and labor activist in the San Francisco Unified School District where she pioneered pregnant mothers programs and school-to-career education and rose from the ranks of a Home Economics teacher to a high school Vice Principal. Betty faithfully dedicated her career to serving underserved San Francisco youth, and doubtless changed the lives of thousands of young people, providing access to a quality education and employment. Her children are educators because of her influence.

Betty was a born again Christian at an early age. She loved the Lord. She was a long-time worker at Emanuel Church of God in Christ in San Francisco where she initiated health drives, a Saturday school program, and Black History Month celebrations. She was a founding member of the California Northwest Education Department that supports scholarships for college bound students and kids matriculating through K-12 education.

Following her relocation to the East Bay, she found a new church home at Shiloh Church in Oakland where she developed new and deep friendships and an unexpected and life-changing sisterhood. Her faith guided her throughout the course of her life and in the spirit of Jesus Christ she comforted and tended to the medical needs and end of life transitions of her father and mother, mother-in-law, husband, and her beloved uncle Walter Paul. Betty exemplified the principle of Christian love and there are many examples of her giving the very shirt off her back or the last dollar in her purse to the needy and the suffering.

Betty was a woman of incredible grace and elegance with fabulous fashion sensibilities and a refined culinary palette who enjoyed cooking and entertaining for friends and family and tending to her garden in her beautiful San Leandro home. She was an accomplished seamstress who made beautiful clothes for her children and her Gulf Coast gumbo was legendary.

Betty ascended to heaven to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at the stroke of midnight September 10. She was surrounded by family in her final hours. During the final weeks of her life friends, family, and church family made the pilgrimage to her home to express their love and gratitude. Betty is survived by her children, Nicholas III and Elizabeth, her grandson Nicholas, daughter-in-law Angela, favorite cousin Renee Paul, adopted daughter Dava Moore, and her beloved cat Gracie.





# ***Celebrating the Life of Betty Joyce Baham***

## ***Quiet Hour***

***September 18, 2018 ~ 5-7pm***

***Shiloh Church, 3295 School Street, Oakland, CA 94602***

***Pastor Chris Casimere, Officiating***

Musical Prelude

Family Entrance

Opening Prayer ..... Pastor Chris Casimere

Worship ..... Shiloh Worship Team

*Because He Lives*

*Soon and Very Soon*

Video Tribute – “I Can Only Imagine” Tamela Mann

Reflections (2 Minutes Please)

Musical Selection ..... Shiloh Worship Team

*Yes, Jesus Loves Me*

Closing Prayer ..... Pastor Chris Casimere

### **A Glimpse 'Til Glory**

Final Viewing

#### **Because He Lives**

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus;  
He came to love, heal and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior  
lives!

Chorus:

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living,  
Just because He lives!

And then one day, I'll cross the river,  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
And then, as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives!

#### **Soon and Very Soon**

Soon and very soon,  
We are going to see the King,  
Soon and very soon,  
We are going to see the King.  
Soon and very soon,  
We are going to see the King,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
We are going to see the King.

Bridge:

Should there be any rivers we must cross,  
Should there be any mountains we must climb,  
God will supply all the strength that we need,  
Give us grace 'til we reach the other side.  
We have come from every nation,  
God knows each of us by name.  
Jesus took His blood and He washed our sins,  
And He washed them all away.  
Yes, there are some of us,  
Who have laid down our lives,  
But we all shall live again,  
On the other side.



***Homegoing Service***

***September 19, 2018 ~ 11am***

***Olivet Memorial Park, 1601 Hillside Blvd, Colma, CA 94014***

***Pastor Javier Ramos, Officiating***

Musical Prelude

Processional

*Going Up Yonder* ~ Freda Lyons Campbell

Opening Prayer ..... Pastor Javier Ramos

Scripture Reading

Psalms 23 ..... Mother Victorene Houston

2 Corinthians 5:8 ..... Patti Venable

2 Corinthians 13:4-7 ..... Loretta Rose

Musical Selection ..... Pat Wardley

*God Is*

Remembering Our Beloved ..... Karen Kline

Musical Selection ..... Freda Lyons Campbell

*I Will Wear a Crown*

Eulogy ..... Pastor Javier Ramos

Proclamation from Emanuel Church of God ..... Mother Majoria Dickey

Reflections (2 Minutes Please)

*Reflections of a Congregant ~ Mother Majoria Dickey*

*Reflections of a Family Friend ~ Carroll Barnes*

*Reflections of a CoWorker ~ Marie Mallari*

*Reflections of Our Mother ~ Nicholas Baham, III*

Prayer for the Family ..... Pastor Javier Ramos

A Glimpse 'Til Glory ..... Freda Campbell Lyons

*Coming Home*



# *Life of Betty Joyce Baham*

## *Interment*

**Prayer**

**Scripture Reading**

**Committal**

**Final Tribute** ..... Freda Campbell Lyons  
"Precious Lord"

## *Pallbearers*

Nicholas L. Baham, III

Arnold Cabantac

LaVaughn Bobo

Jeffrey Sid

Beng Stevenson

Timothy Cromartie

## *Honorary Pallbearers*

Nicholas L. Baham, IV

LaVerio Barnes

Julian Cabantac

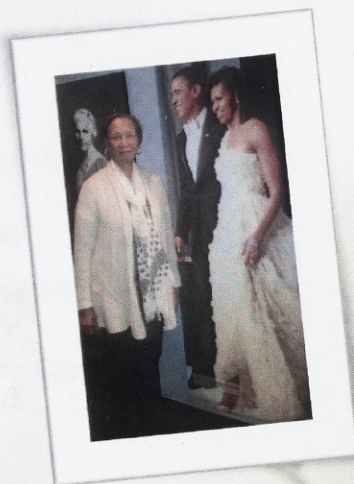
Walter Paul (deceased)

*Repast Immediately Following*

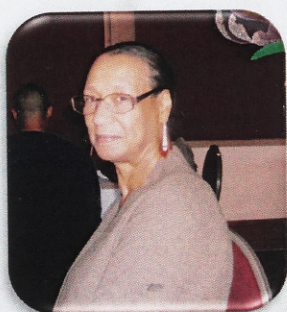
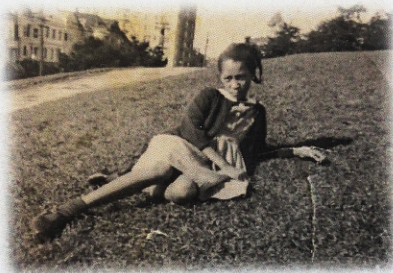
**Baham Home**

2768 Darius Way  
San Leandro, CA











## *Acknowledgements*

The Light of God surrounds Betty.

The Love of God enfolds her.

The Presence of God watches over her.

And, all is well.

The Lord has willed it so.



*With heartfelt appreciation, the family thanks each of  
you for all the prayers and the wonderful expressions of  
sympathy during our time of grief.*

*– The Baham Family*